

in FY 2013—including \$39.1 billion in discretionary spending, \$1.4 billion in mandatory spending, and \$5.5 billion for emergency disaster relief. The measure significantly increases funding for FEMA state and local grants and for Homeland cyber-security activities.

Despite these benefits, I have concerns about how the bill disregards the mandates of the Budget Control Act, how it treats civilian employees at DHS and how the bill delves into unprecedented territory regarding the reproductive rights of women.

The spending caps set by the bi-partisan Budget Control Act ensured that prioritized programs could be funded adequately even as discretionary reductions were achieved. The harmful discretionary top-line set by the House Republican budget, and facilitated by this bill, threatens funding for other equally vital programs, threatens American jobs, and threatens the services relied upon by our seniors and our veterans.

Further, I am concerned that the bill does not fund the .5 percent cost of living adjustment provided as part of the president's FY13 budget request. Federal employees have already sacrificed \$60 billion of salary over ten years as part of the two-year pay freeze. Starting in January 2013, new federal employees will contribute more to their pensions to offset the \$15 billion cost of Unemployment Insurance Extension legislation. And with this bill, federal employees are asked to give up what was already a small .5% partial COLA. This provision essentially extends for another year the 2-year pay freeze currently covering DHS employees.

Finally, I am disappointed by the passage and inclusion in the bill of an amendment offered by STEVE KING of Iowa, which I opposed and which prohibits the use of the funds in the bill from being used to implement the so called "Morton Memos." The memos, written by ICE Director Morton, provide a plan to deploy ICE resources in the most cost effective manner. Specifically, they provide guidance to ensure that limited enforcement resources are focused primarily on criminals or other individuals who pose a threat to national security or public safety. The King amendment will prohibit the department from exercising this common sense prosecutorial discretion. It would force the Department to treat young people who were brought to the United States as kids and who have graduated from American schools the same as individuals who knowingly broke immigration laws and who have committed crimes in the United States. That makes no sense.

Bringing a bill to the floor that cuts the resources available to the men and women responsible for protecting the homeland security of the Nation and then tying their hands with unnecessary and ill-informed amendments is counterproductive and undercuts the bill's intended purpose.

CONGRATULATING THE DAVE THOMAS FOUNDATION FOR ADOPTION ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

This foundation, established in 1992 by Dave Thomas, has continuously strived to help every child in foster care find a loving, permanent family. It has dramatically increased the number of adoptions, including finding families for 3,000 children in the United States foster care system, and for that I commend them.

The Foundation shows its commitment to the foster care system by awarding grants to public and private adoption agencies all across the country. As a founding member of National Adoption Day, it has helped brighten the lives of countless children.

Last year's awarded grants totaled more than \$8 million and focused on supporting adoption professionals who assist the longest-waiting children from foster care into adoptive families. This genuine program, Wendy's Wonderful Kids, has increased children's likelihood of being adopted by up to three times.

As an accredited charity of the Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance, Standards for Excellence certified, the Foundation has received the highest possible rating on Charity Navigator, an exceptional honor.

For these reasons, I am proud to applaud the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption for representing Central Ohio through its extraordinary contributions to the United States foster care system.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF THE HMONG PILOTS OF THE SECRET WAR IN LAOS

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, during the Vietnam War another "secret war" was taking place in Laos with thousands of Hmong fighters assisting the U.S. The Hmong who risked their lives for the freedom of their country and in the aid of the U.S. suffered tremendously as they served with great courage.

This weekend in Maplewood, Minnesota, a little known group of Hmong pilot veterans of the secret war gathered and were recognized by the U.S. Air Force in appreciation of their heroism. Supported by the U.S., some 38 Hmong pilots were trained to fly counterinsurgency missions between 1967 and 1975. Seventeen of those pilots are alive today and were honored, along with posthumous awards for 21 deceased colleagues, by Air Force Chief of Staff, General Norton Schwartz.

I, too, would like to recognize and honor those brave Hmong pilots who are living examples of courage, along with the pilots who

sacrificed their lives. The secret war was a difficult and painful time for the Hmong people. Today, decades later, Minnesota is the home to many who lived through those years of war and suffering. As Hmong Americans of all generations contribute to making Minnesota and the U.S. a stronger and more prosperous land, we must never forget the service, sacrifice, and courage of the Hmong warriors who fought on land and in the sky for freedom during the secret war.

Again, I join in the recognition and remembrance of 38 Hmong pilots who risked their lives for freedom.

RECOGNIZING ROCKWELL MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Rockwell Museum of Western Art as the 29th District of New York's most recently accredited museum. The Rockwell Museum was just awarded accreditation by the American Association of Museums, the highest national recognition a museum can receive for their commitment to public service and excellence in education.

The American Association of Museums states that there are over 17,500 museums in the United States and less than 800 are accredited. These numbers would place the Rockwell Museum of Western Art in a very elite category and I am proud to represent this museum.

The Rockwell Museum of Western Art inspires and educates people of all ages. Its vision inspires the staff to strive towards making the museum a resource for study, knowledge, and entertainment by local and national audiences. I encourage everyone to stop in and visit the Rockwell Museum next time you are in Corning, New York.

CONGRATULATING JAMES FARR

### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. James Farr of Rochester, New York for his three-year appointment to the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission. The Commission was established by P.L. 106-554 to assist in the preservation, maintenance and interpretation of the historical, natural, cultural, scenic and recreational resources of the Erie Canalway in ways that reflect its national significance. I nominated Jim for the Corridor's Commission on August 25, 2011, and am delighted to have a dedicated member of the Rochester community represented on the Commission.

As an employee of the City of Rochester for over 34 years, Jim's passion for improving this great area of New York will serve as an integral asset to the Commission. He has represented the city as a committee member on both of the World Canal Conferences held in Rochester and has also assisted with and attended a number of the Canal Society of New

York Conferences and events. Currently serving as Assistant Director for Recreation, Jim is responsible for the City's environmental and horticultural education programs and parks stewardship, as well as the oversight of the Rochester Public Market. Jim truly embodies the spirit of this region.

An example of Jim's creativity and dedication to the area is his close work with Parks and Trails New York to coordinate the annual "Cycle the Erie" bike tour, which showcases the Canalway's heritage. In addition, Jim is currently a Board member of the Genesee WaterWays Center. He is the former President and a current Foundation member of Monroe County Cooperative Extension. Jim serves as a member of many other related boards and organizations, including the Monroe County Parks Advisory Committee, the Ontario Beach Park Program Committee, the Farmers Market Federation of New York, and the National Association of Produce Market Managers. He is also the secretary and one of the founding board members of the Tony Jordan Youth Sports Foundation, which provides supplemental funding to enhance the quality and integrity of youth sports in the City of Rochester.

The Erie Canalway Corridor is a symbol of American ingenuity and perseverance, and I am grateful for Jim Farr's continued commitment to promoting its national significance by serving on the Erie Canalway National Heritage Corridor Commission. I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Jim Farr for his long record of public service.

#### HONORING EDDIE WONG

#### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eddie Wong, a man who has played a significant role in the ongoing restoration and development of the Angel Island Immigration Station in Marin County, CA. On June 30, 2012, Mr. Wong is retiring after four productive years as Executive Director of the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (AIISF).

Located off the coast of Tiburon, California, in Angel Island State Park, the Immigration Station is the site of the detention of 175,000 Chinese immigrants from 1910 to 1940. Because of the Chinese Exclusion Act, many of them were held for weeks, months or years in a prison-like barracks where life was difficult and humiliating.

The restoration of this Station and related educational projects recognize the struggle of these immigrants and our nation's challenge to honor our history of immigration. AIISF, with the hard work of its many supporters and partners, including the California State Parks and the National Park Service, has led these rehabilitation efforts. During Mr. Wong's tenure, the Immigration Station Museum opened, the Immigrant Heritage Wall was created, and the hospital at the site was stabilized.

The Angel Island Immigration Station now hosts more than 50,000 visitors, including 30,000 schoolchildren, every year. I have had the privilege of participating in this effort by

securing federal funding, and I share Eddie Wong's belief that with the partnership we have, we can complete the remaining work on this important testament to our rich and complex history.

Mr. Wong came to the Executive Director position with a strong background in the cultural social issues at stake. He graduated from UCLA with a BA and MFA from School of Fine Arts Motion Picture and Television Program. Before joining AIISF, he co-founded Visual Communications, the nation's first Asian American film production company, served as the Strategy and Investment Principal for Media and the Advisor on Social Justice for the Democracy Alliance, and was Executive Director of the National Asian American Telecommunications Association (now known as the Center for Asian American Media).

Understanding that the Angel Island Immigration Station site resonates personally with many immigrants, Mr. Wong says, "I think that my father, who was deported from Angel Island as a 15-year old and came back a year later determined to better his life, would be proud that a place of shame has now become a site of conscience."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Eddie Wong and in wishing him well in his retirement.

#### IN HONOR OF TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 600

#### HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Teamsters Local Union No. 600, in celebration of their 100th anniversary and service to the members of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area.

Teamsters Local Union No. 600 is deserving of special public recognition for its many accomplishments. It has distinguished record of service to working men and women, as well as to their families. Its immeasurable contributions to the advancement of the union labor movement in the St. Louis Metropolitan Area have made our community a better place.

Teamsters Local Union No. 600 has worked to improve the working conditions, benefits, and wages for the men and women of the St. Louis Metropolitan Area. In addition, their influence was appreciated and felt by those who drove freight trucks, worked in warehouses, made milk deliveries, and worked at the Anheuser Busch beer distributorships.

But there work has not only been limited to St. Louis. As a Member the US House of Representatives' Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the Teamsters Local Union No. 600 advice and counsel has been invaluable to me when working on local, regional, and national transportation issues.

Teamsters Local Union No. 600 has also lead the way in providing employers in the transportation industry with the best trained employees, making it possible for the goods and services that millions of Americans rely on to be delivered safely, on time and in good condition. This kind of commitment by the

Teamsters makes our US economy work, grow, and prosper for all us.

Again, I congratulate Teamsters Local Union No. 600 on their 100th Anniversary, and wish them more success in the future.

#### IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL SOTO PRINCIPAL OF JAMES WELDON JOHNSON LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PUBLIC SCHOOL 57

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a dear friend and great force in the education of our children, Israel Soto, principal of James Weldon Johnson Leadership Academy Public School 57, who is retiring after a long career in public education service. Israel, a Puerto Rican immigrant, began his career in education in my congressional district as a school bilingual coordinator and as an assistant director of bilingual education in Washington Heights.

In 1999, Israel ascended to principal of James Weldon Johnson Leadership Academy Public School 57, a pre-K-8 school in East Harlem/El Barrio, which is also a part of my district. Mr. Soto's expertise in bilingual education and the fact that his second language was English, like many of the school's students, made him an ideal choice for principal. His talents extend to all facets of education, and under his leadership, James Weldon Johnson Leadership Academy has gone from a near-failing school to one that received a grade of "A" in its latest Progress Report and is ranked in the 93rd percentile of all New York City K-8 schools.

Principal Soto has deservedly received numerous awards during his tenure. In 2001, he was named "Principal of the Month" in his school district and in 2004 was recognized as the "Educator of the Week" by Univision 41 Nueva York. Israel has also been inducted into the "Cahn Fellows Program for Distinguished Principals" at Columbia University as well as being honored by Children 4 Children, the YMCA of New York, the New York Post, and El Diario La Prensa.

Principal Soto's work at James Weldon Johnson Leadership Academy serves as a model for current and future educators. He has built strong partnerships with teachers, parents, community organizations, and the private sector while keeping his focus internal, on his students. This outreach has significantly increased the academic resources available to his students and demonstrates the supreme importance of an active and charismatic principal and leader.

On Thursday, May 31, 2012 at the elegant Marina del Rey, the Soto Retirement Committee joined the East Harlem/El Barrio community of leaders, children, parents, families, friends, and education advocates to pay tribute to our Dream Maker Principal Israel Soto.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in honoring a great man and an impassioned educator who, first and foremost, believes in all of our extraordinary children.